

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Summary of Klamath Project January 2013 Operations

The elevation of Upper Klamath Lake (UKL) increased from 4,139.84 feet on December 31st to 4,140.44 feet on January 31st. The January 31, 2013 UKL elevation is 0.58 feet lower than the elevation at the end of January 2012 (4,141.02). Total net inflows to UKL for January were 96.65 Thousand Acre Feet (TAF), which is 69% of the Natural Resource Conservation Service average of 140 TAF for the month.

Releases from Link River Dam averaged 856 cfs during the month. The average Iron Gate flow for January was 1,141 cfs. Consistent with the Variable Base Flow Procedure (VBF), no specific VBF releases were made downstream of Iron Gate Dam during January since the UKL elevation did not exceed the threshold of 4,142.3 feet during the month.

However, a flow variability release was made from Iron Gate Dam during January, consistent with the Flow Variability Program as described in the National Marine Fisheries Service 2010 Biological Opinion on Klamath Project Operations. The event lasted from January 24 to January 26 and totaled about 590 acre-feet. Reclamation is dedicated to managing, developing, and protecting water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, Reclamation, and Klamath Project stakeholders are working together to manage available water to provide benefits to basin irrigators while protecting Endangered Species Act-listed fish.